The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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ANTI-UNIONISTS THROW OUT 'FEELERS' FOR DESPERATE PLAN

The president is being urged to favor an anti-union shop declaration in the administration party's platform next year. The plan is a flank attack on the unions by declaring for individual bargaining.

The proposal, of course, is a kite or "feeler." It's purpose is to ascertain if it is possible to inflame business men, middle classes and farmers against organized wage earners.

This wild suggestion, so fraught with menace and national discord, indicates the terror and desperation that has seized the labor injunction, union-hating element in the administration.

It shows the spiritual bankruptcy, the barrenness, the lack of idealism of these dominant and hard-boiled forces.

The suggestion that labor be compelled to bargain individually is as old as history.

At one time this plan was not cluttered with cheap, tawdry verbiage. It was known as slavery, and it was called slavery. It was openly defended. It was replaced by feudalism, and this was followed by groupings of workers who were as stoutly resisted as they are today.

The present generation recalls the utterances of that Chicago car builder: "I have nothing to arbitrate." And then George F. Baer, coal owner, made this frank statement during the anthracite strike of 1902:

> "The rights and interests of the laboring man will be protected and cared for—not by the labor agitators, but by the Christian men to whom God in His infinite wisdom has given control of the property interests of the country."

Behind these utterances is the slavery ideal. Pullman was absolute. Baer believed he was commissioned from on high. So did the Kaiser. All autocrats believe they are of superior clay.

Today's puny imitators of autocracy lack the courage of their forbears.

The anti-union capitalist and his political agents indulge in maudlin and befuddled talk of "liberty" and "freedom" and "the right to work." In practice they deny workers every right they profess.

Garyism is the modern application of the enslavement ideal. In both cases the employer is absolute. The company "union" is another phase of the same theory.

Garyism is the bludgeon that would smash trade unionism. The company "union" is the stiletto. Both have the same purpose. Both use the same confusing terms, as do the men who want to outlaw collective bargaining.

Like the feudal baron they oppose workers banding themselves. The former used government to hold labor to the land. The latter would hold labor to industry by the injunction process, anti-strike laws and smashing trade unions by outlawing collective bargaining.

But the modern feudalist lacks the courage to put his cards on the table. He is cunning and stealthy, tricky and evasive. He says one thing while meaning another. He poses as a champion of democracy and with nimble tongue repeats every thread-bare hypocrisy and cant.

The methods of the feudal baron and the anti-union capitalist differ, but their purposes are identical.

The present plan to have a great political party declare against collective bargaining is the old struggle of the few to control the many.

Let no worker be alarmed at these imitators of slave owners and the fuedal age.

COMMUNIST PLEADS FOR UNION SYMPATHY

Chicago, April 7.—M. J. Olgin, editor of a Jewish communist paper in New York, who is charged with organized labor with being a stool pigeon and a consorter with strikebreakers, is now chamelessly writing to trade union editors for sympathy.

In a cleverly worded letter he attempts to create the impression that he is persecuted by organized fur workers, who are against a free press, and who refuse to submit differences with him to a labor court.

In replying to Olgin, George W. Perkins, editor of the Cigar Makers' Official Journal, says:

"If you wanted to confine your matters to an impartial labor committee you should have gone to them directly at the start, instead of publishing your accusations in a public paper."

Olgin's troubles with the New York Fur Workers' union started when he stated in his paper that a member of this union risk their lives whenever they dare criticise their officers. The officers called the district attorney's attention to this charge, and that public official ordered Olgin to produce his proof that this terrorism existed. Olgin then pleaded with the unionists that their differences be settled in a "shop court," instead of the regular law-enforcing machinery.

"Don't let us air our quarrels in public," whimpered Olgin. But conservationist who clearly indicated that he was trapped. In refusing Olgin's alluring bait, International President Kaufman told the communist he is a stool pigeon and has consorted with strikebreakers, "which only adds to the world the most terrible stories about the unions."

Olgin was then forced to appear before the district attorney. He presented a sorry picture, and refused to answer any questions. Thoroughly discredited, and publicly branded as a stool pigeon and an opponent of every union that does not completely do his bidding for a class struggle, Olgin is now appealing to labor editors that he is fighting the cause of a free press.

HERRIN GUARDS BLAMED

Marion, Ill., April 7.—A hidden machine gun and high-powered rifles manned by nine guards killed the first man, an unarmed striking miner, slain during the Herrin outbreak, witnesses for the defense testified at the Herrin mine trial.

There was no trouble from April 1, when the Southern Illinois Coal company shut down, until June 15, when the guards were imported, witnesses said.

The mine guards were accused of holding up, assaulting and shooting persons passing near the mine on the public road. Two witnesses swore they had seen the guards place a gun in position on top of the mine dump and conceal it behind a clump of bushes. They testified that two or three shots were fired from this gun before the general shots fired from outside the mine.

Lucien Tucker testified that he and Sheriff McDowell, superintendent of the mine, told him: "We're going to work it if we have to work it by force." Tucker said McDowell then showed him two rapid fire rifles which he said were the kind of a "rear" gun operated on a tripod and about a ton of ammunition.

Ed Crenshaw said that after the shooting from the mine in the afternoon he saw the body of Jordy Henderson, the first of three union miners killed, lying near his home about 100 feet from the pit. He swore that Henderson was unarmed.

The state objected to much of this testimony relating to the activities of the armed guards prior to the outbreak, but was overruled by Judge Hartwell, who declared that the testimony was admissible to show motive of the shootings, but as mitigating circumstances.

PENNSY TRAINS FAIL.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 7.—The Pennsylvania railroad has not put a single extra train on schedule time in the past six weeks, says James Smallwood, a traveling man, writing in the Buffalo Labor Journal against the claims of Pennsylvania officials.

Mr. Smallwood gives an account of his recent experiences with "rush" trains on this system and the dates and time to prove that the schedule on this anti-union system has broken down.

"Whether or not the car strike has been settled or how the Pennsylvania I am not concerned," he says, "but I do wish to disagree with the president of the road when he says the industry is operating 106 per cent normal. If these trains happen to be a sample of trains, it is easy to understand what the freight trains are up against. Is it any wonder there is a coal shortage in the large cities?"

COURT UPHOLDS CONTRACT

Dayton, Ohio, April 7.—The court of appeals has ruled that the Dayton electric street car employes who were discharged by the City Railway company are in violation of a contract with the Street Car Men's union.

The court of appeals said the men would be limited to nominal damages. This means that the company will not be called upon to pay damages other than a few cents, and that the workers must be satisfied with their moral victory. The company will appeal the case.

NO TAX REDUCTION IF WEALTH ESCAPES

Washington, April 7.—Treasury experts indicate that under present conditions government economy in the expenditure of money, which means less taxes, is out of the question for some time.

Progressives in the next congress reply that the remedy is to tax wealth.

It is stated that out of every dollar the government collects from taxpayers under 78½ cents goes for war subjects and the public debt. The largest amount—26.6 cents—is for payment of interest on the public debt. Of every dollar spent the veterans' bureau receives 10 cents for the care of war veterans. The navy receives 12½ cents and the military establishment, 9 cents.

Seven cents out of every dollar goes to pensions for soldiers. The shipping board receives 2.26 cents out of every dollar, and public roads receive 2.42 cents. Tax refunds use 2.32 cents, while 1 cent is used for the care of Indians. The remaining 12.87 cents for running all other government activities, which includes the departments of state, treasury, justice, postoffice, interior, agriculture and labor, and all special bureaus and commissions, the educational movements, the health bureau and numberless other functions to necessary for the people's welfare. For all of these less than 13 cents on every dollar is expended.

Private Labor Agencies Filch State's Workless

Sacramento, Cal., April 7.—Attorneys for private labor agencies are in this city to urge that the employment agencies against state regulation. Three bills on this subject are pending in the state legislature. The bill makers are surprised at the opposition the labor agencies can mass against them, and any such, though it has been shown that more than $1,000,000 is annually taken from the pockets of those who are the least able to bear it. The fees charged range from 10 per cent to one-half of first month's wages. These agencies charge from 5 to 7 per cent of the first year's pay of the successful applicants.

Many agencies do an annual business of from $10,000 to $60,000. They have sworn an atmosphere of service and humanitarianism around their gouging of the workers that has even fooled some members of the legislature, who, it is whispered, are very easily imposed upon when it suits their political purpose.

MEAT PACKERS MERGE.

Chicago, April 7.—The Armour and Morris packing plants have merged into a $150,000,000 concern. This action indicates big business' contempt for law. The companies were permanently enjoined from combining by the supreme court of the District of Columbia in February, 1920. The federal trade commission also opposed the merger, as did Attorney General Daugherty.

Attorney General Daugherty is the one official friend the packers have, Mc-Dowell, superintendent of the mine, told him: "We're going to work it if we have to work it by force." Tucker said McDowell then showed him two rapid fire rifles which he said were the kind of a "rear" gun operated on a tripod and about a ton of ammunition.

Ed Crenshaw said that after the shooting from the mine in the afternoon he saw the body of Jordy Henderson, the first of three union miners killed, lying near his home about 100 feet from the pit. He swore that Henderson was unarmed.

The state objected to much of this testimony relating to the activities of the armed guards prior to the outbreak, but was overruled by Judge Hartwell, who declared that the testimony was admissible to show motive of the shootings, but as mitigating circumstances.

WAGE SCALE WILL STAND.

Washington, April 7.—There will be no change in the wage of commercial shop printers employed in the printing and binding branch of the District of Columbia typothetae, according to an award made by Judge Pendleton, of the supreme justice of the federal court of claims.

In declining to grant the request for a wage reduction, on the ground that there has been a reduction in the cost of living, Judge Pendleton said:

"Granting that it has declined, it is, nevertheless, apparent to the board that even that the decline is not of sufficient proportions to warrant a reduction."

In opposing a wage increase, Judge Booth said the industry is sufficiently "burdened" now.

IGNORANT OF LAW.

Philadelphia, April 7.—Ignorance of judges and lawyers hurts the law courts of America, said Dr. William Draper Lewis, of the university of Pennsylvania. He said that lack of agreement exists among the judges of the various municipal practices of common law. The American law institute, a new organization of leading legal authorities of the country, is to formulate a restatement of the law. Dr. Draper said this restatement of the law will not attempt to usurp legislative functions, but "will operate to secure agreement on the fundamental principles of common law, give precision to the use of legal terms, and make the law more uniform throughout the country."

NO ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR MINE DISASTER

San Francisco, April 7.—A committee appointed by the governor reports that it is impossible to place the responsibility for the Argonaut mine disaster on August 27, 1922, when 47 workers lost their lives.

The committee is not sure of the cause of the fire, but is inclined to one of two theories—spontaneous or defective electric wiring. The mine company officials are sure the fire was the work of an unknown incendiary.

The committee wants it understood that it does not desire to "unduly censure" anyone, while calling attention to how the loss of life could be reduced. It is stated that new orders or regulations are not necessary, but that enforcement of those now in force should be made effective.

It would appear to the committee that the conditions which led to the fire resulting in the great loss of life, were not corrected "by the newer and more modern and up-to-date methods," says the report. It would further appear that attention to detail with regard to the training of men and the provision of safety devices to be utilized by them, in case of disaster or necessity, was lacking. Also, while the safety regulations according to law were perhaps complied with, insufficient attention was given to the provision of fire-fighting appliances such as could be used for the protection of life and property.

"If the men directly in charge of the several shifts, at the mine, viz., the shift bosses, level bosses, and others, had been trained in the use of fire-fighting appliances under conditions which might overtake them at any time, a better discipline and control would have been made with a more satisfactory result than is shown by the record."

COAL BARONS GOUGED; PEOPLE WERE HELPLESS

New York, April 7.—The coal situation the past winter called for "the big stick," but that weapon was not forthcoming, according to General George W. Goethals, who has finished his work as New York state fuel administrator. The army man was caustic in his criticism of federal officials, and especially of congress, because of its inaction in last winter's coal crisis.

"The situation is a national one," said General Goethals. "Whenever you have a situation of this sort there is only one power that can handle it. The federal government should have the power to inspect at the mines, handle prices and direct distribution. In fact, that is what it has to do, what it shall do. But if you give a man a job you have got to give him authority."

The general complains that congress has never given the president any quasi-judicial body which never acts. Long ago I defined a commission or a tribunal as something that was long, narrow and wooden. If you want anything done you have got to put a man in charge equal to his responsibility."

BOYS ARE SHANGHAIED.

Toledo, Ohio, April 7.—Police officials of this city and of Cleveland are on the trail of a gang that has shanghaied high school and college boys from the central states. Police officers found one boy, whose home is in Cleveland, working under guard in the engine room of a ship in the harbor. It is stated that the boys are enticed on certain shipping boards by others who then swindle them of their wages.

This swindling is easy because of the anti-union policy of the Lake Carriers' association, which is controlled by the Pittsburgh steamship trust, the same concern that owns the Pittsburgh steamship company. During the war government board ordered the association to desist from forcing seamen to carry passbooks in which contained their photo, measurements and where formerly employed. This order was ignored and the "fink" plan has been re-established.

With no one to protect boys on these lake steamers, the gang is free to work grafting officials to have the boys shanghaied and then rob them of their wages.

LONGSHOREMEN GAIN.

New York, April 7.—General George W. Goethals, acting as arbitrator, made a wage award for longshoremen that affects about seventy thousand men. The new rates are 70 cents an hour, instead of 65 cents, and $1.07 instead of $1 for overtime.

UNIONISM PAYS.

Pontiac, Mich., April 7.—The local Typographical union has established a rate of $40 a week for day work and $45 for night work. This city has a population of 35,000.

HAYES RESIGN OFFICE

Chicago, April 7.—Cornelius J. Hayes has resigned as general president of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen. He held that office for two years.

WAR WILL NOT CEASE BY ONE RESOLUTION

Ottawa, Canada, April 7.—"Can it be that any are so short-sighted as to believe that wars can be prevented by the spasmodic passing of resolutions?" asks the Canadian Congress Journal, official magazine of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress.

The Journal cites a trade unionist in the Canadian northwest who opposed further anti-war agitation for the reason that "in 1914 the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada had taken a stand on war, but when war came in 1914 this policy toppled over like a house of cards."

"Perhaps others," says the Canadian Congress Journal, "likewise become faint-hearted in the endeavor to save civilization from the ravages of future wars because a resolution once passed did not bring about the prevention of the holocaust of 1914."

The executive council of the Trades and Labor Congress has been carrying on an anti-war agitation because of the situation in the Near East. The Canadian Congress Journal says this campaign is not meeting with the success that it should, and that "lack of support is particularly noticeable from those sections of the country which were most specific in demanding active measures when the last war in the East crisis was upon us. The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada was practically forced at that time to make a pronouncement against Canada's participation in such a war."

Lumber Owners Combine; Insist on Reduced Wage

Seattle, April 7.—The apparently simple economic truth that high wages results in bad times was brought out at a hearing on the lumber trust, conducted by the federal trade commission.

Gerald Frink, an iron manufacturer, made the statement that has been repeated times without number by organized workers.

It is known that lumber owners combined and attempted to ruin any dealer who would not join with them. Later they raised prices they reduced wages and resisted the establishment of the eight-hour day.

Now the trust's defense is that if lumber owners go back to competitive conditions they will be forced to establish the eight-hour day and cut wages. They find it convenient for the moment to accept organized labor's position, and numerous business men are willing to indorse this view, when the question of wages is not directly involved.

NATURAL GAS WASTED.

San Francisco, April 7.—One-half of the yield of natural gas in the southern oil belt of this state is being wasted, according to R. E. Collom, state oil and gas supervisor. The greatest waste is in the Long Beach oil field, where about 196,000,000 cubic feet of gas roars into the air daily. Fifty million cubic feet is being wasted daily in Santa Fe Springs oil field, and 18,000,000 cubic feet in Huntington Beach. This criminal waste of the people's heritage attracts no attention from the numerous conservation workers on the need for efficiency. The anarchy and waste that now rule in these oil fields is indicated by a report by Supervisor Collom, who says:

"Thus the spectacle of congested oil derricks, gushing wells and pools, of varicating stock jobbers, open-mouthed bonanza and inexperienced operators, all pyramided as a dangerous load upon the serious, solid business of petroleum production, is animated by the craze of wasting gas, posterity's tribute and sacrifice to the invaluable resource to our present greed."

FAVOR COMMISSION RULE.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 7.—The convention of western New York locals, now in this city, declared against abolishing the state public service commission. It was stated that if the commission is abolished out of office control of street railway systems, for instance, will pass to city councils, and this would not be to the interest of stockholders in these companies.

That the street car companies favor the commission system is indicated by Henry W. Killeen, attorney for the international railway company of this city, who told a legislative committee at the state capitol that only "jackasses and reds" are opposed to the public service commission.

The attorney's employers have been trying for several months to destroy the service, or men's union. The company's losses now run into the millions, and its system is wrecked, but the strikers are as determined as ever.

TEAMSTERS RAISE WAGES.

San Francisco, April 7.—Organized teamsters have signed up with employers contract with the draymen's association. Wages are increased 50 cents a day for all classes of work. The new rates range from $5.50 to $7.50 a day, according to the vehicle.

BUILDING WORKERS GAIN.

Hamilton, Ontario, April 7.—Organized carpenters have raised wages 5 cents an hour, to 80 cents. Plasterers have increased their rate from 90 cents to $1.125.

NEW YORK COSSACKS ASSAULT CITIZENS

Albany, N. Y., April 7.—Charges that the state police carried out policies of intimidation, brutality, violence and overriding the constitutional rights of citizens" while on strike duty at Corinth and Buffalo, are portions of a report by a state federation of labor investigating committee.

The committee's report charges made by organized labor that these cossacks are a menace to good order and are vicious strikebreakers.

"In the years 1920 and 1921," the report said, "a great many industrial disputes arose throughout the state. The bureau of mediation and arbitration, created under the industrial commissioner, was used to settle these disputes, but the state police were sent into the localities against the wishes of elected officials of those localities. The activities of the state police were unlawful, brutal, obscene and outrageous and tended to bring disgrace upon our state and destroy the confidence of our people in constituted authority. Their rowdyism, their brutality, and their disregard for law and order is borne out in detail in voluminous affidavits of their victims and eye-witnesses.

"In July, 1921, the state troopers rode into Corinth, over protests of the president of that village, its board of trustees, and its justice of the peace. They drove their horses on the sidewalks, clubbing citizens right and left and riding down women and children. They entered saloons, drove the customers and abused citizens who were not even intoxicated, and generally terrorized and propagated threats, driving them into the streets and then drove them from the sidewalks into highways and generally made themselves as obnoxious as possible to the citizens.

"When the state troopers were called to Buffalo over the objections of the mayor and other elected officials, their actions were a repetition of what transpired at Corinth."

USE GUM SHOE METHODS TO ESTABLISH COSSACKS

St. Paul, Minn., April 7.—Organized labor has raised a warning cry against the establishment of state constabulary.

The proposal is of the gum shoe order, and has been introduced in the state legislature by Assemblyman Sjodin. The bill has an innocent title, and is alleged to be solely for "the better prevention of crime." A "bureau," with no identification, is to be created. The director will be appointed by the governor for a term of six years. He will appoint a deputy, an assistant deputy, an identification expert, a statistician and "such other assistants, clerks and employes as may be necessary."

The whole scheme, trade unionists say, is the skeleton of a first-class cossack system.

FAKE LABOR PRESS BODY

Washington, April 7.—"There is no such thing as a bona fide labor press association of Boston, Mass.," says Chester M. Wright, editor of A. P. of L. Information and publicity service, writing to A. LaCrosse, Jr., trade unionist.

"Someone is doing business under any name other than their own in Massachusetts must be associated by the owners of their company either at the state house or at the city hall in Boston," says the publicity director. "The name of the allied labor press association is not registered in either of these offices, which is no such organization is doing business in Massachusetts. I am certain in Boston know nothing of any such organization. The assumption is that representatives of this concern give Boston as a mailing office address while they are working in the west. If they were working in Boston they would give some other city as their post office address.

"It is clear that whatever may be the character of the allied labor press association it has no legal existence, and anything for the benefit of labor and it is doubtful if the organization is anything in the interest of organized labor."

BIG PROFITS IN RUBBER.

New York, April 7.—The United States rubber company reports net profits for 1922 of $20,000,000.

The company has just announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of automobile tires and tubes.

HUGE ELECTRIC PROFITS.

New York, April 7.—The General electric company has reported net profits for year of $25,321,019. These profits are clear and are after all charges and taxes have been paid.

FUR WORKERS GAIN.

St. Paul, Minn., April 7.—With the signing of union agreements by two fur dealers, the organized workers in this industry now maintain relations with all local concerns.

STEEL WORKERS UNITE.

Ashtabula, Ohio, April 7.—Employes of the Ashtabula steel company have organized and are chartered by the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.

HIGH WAGE, HEALTHFUL WORKERS PAY BEST RETURNS TO EMPLOYERS

Boston, April 7.—There is no economic advantage in cheap labor, long hours and poor working conditions that irritate and anger employes, said Dr. Donald B. Armstrong of the national health council in an address to business men of this city.

He told of the heavy illness losses—amounting to 10 per cent—in the south, compared with only 2 per cent ill in New England, and said it was foolish to think that higher wages required than to employ the lower-paid, less efficient workers of the south.

"Of particular importance to New England," said Dr. Armstrong, "is the fact that the time is coming when we shall select a community for industrial development, not only because of its railroad facilities and labor market and availability of raw materials; we shall take into consideration health conditions, death rates and illness prevalence.

"Up to the present time most of us think of health work in industry in terms of the brotherliness, of justice, of advertising, or of being up-to-date. We have allowed ourselves to be content with our underlying motives, but we have failed to deceive our workmen. This is a mistake. We should, we have kept no detailed records of cost; we expended our health appropriations with small thought of profit and loss. We have frequently tried something in health or welfare work that had got to some one else's credit. Or, maybe we were conscious of a certain unrest among our men and used certain health work as a sop to pacify discontent.

Dr. Armstrong explained that this attitude not only failed to demonstrate the value of health work from an economic point of view, but created a wrong attitude among the workers. "That is why welfare work," he said, "has come to be known in some circles as 'hell fare' work.

"There are many groups of conditions hampering health which do not result in a man's stopping work entirely, but which do constantly and progressively curtail his production. Would you play your best game of golf in New Orleans in the summer? How about golf if you were covered with hives? Consider the time a man loses in scratching when infected by some of the industrial skin diseases. Will it pay to save him that time? Does a man in an ugly temper produce as much as a comfortable man? Is it worth while to help him stop scratching? Yes, to save yourself money.

"There is the obvious money loss due to sickness, absenteeism and turnover, but there is the less easily computable loss due to the inhibition of production following lowered attention.

"Fatigue, inattention, lack of concentration cost money. Mental irritation may be caused by any of these. Men are irritated, even though unconsciously, by unpleasant working conditions. In many of these instances conditions are unhealthful conditions.

"A healthy man likes to work, and the man who likes his job does a good job. The discontented man is the man of high turnover costs. It is cheaper to keep a good man than to keep a trained man, on his job than to save money on light, heat and air. Some of the things we kick about in our own offices—the ventilation, an electric fan, a reading light, a comfortable, adjustable desk chair, drinking water, even the view—all these things contribute to our efficiency."

ROCKEFELLER'S INCOME IS MILLION A MONTH

New York, April 7.—The oil income of John D. Rockefeller, jr., is $1,000,000 a month, according to a compilation by Lamborn, Jones & Co., from testimony given at the recent United States senate investigation of the petroleum industry.

Young Rockefeller owns 7,638,390 shares of stock in nine of the more than sixty standard oil companies. From these he receives dividends at the rate of $11,946,622 annually at the present rate of payments. This represents about one-sixth of the 45,726,767 shares outstanding. At current market prices, young Rockefeller's holdings in these companies are worth $410,674,000. His largest holding is in Standard oil of California, in which he owns 23.4 per cent of issued stock. He owns 24.9 per cent of Standard oil of New York stock, and the same proportion of Standard oil of New Jersey.

When the United States supreme court dissolved the oil trust—known as the Standard oil trust of New Jersey—the elder Rockefeller owned 24.8 per cent of that stock. The dissolution decision meant that each share in the various units was the same as in the original company. His wife, children, daughters-in-law, relatives, to his son, his daughter and various charities. In each of the companies, except the Standard oil of California, Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick, the Rockefeller foundation, general education board, Spelman seminary, Rockefeller memorial or the Rockefeller institute for medical research appear as the largest stockholder.

MILL BARONS IN CLOVER.

Boston, April 7.—The 10 and 12 per cent wage increases by textile corporations in the Fall River area of which Boston is a branch, recalls the last financial statement by the Pacific mills corporation of Lawrence, Mass.

This corporation was incorporated in 1859 with a capital of $1,000,000. December, 1922, its capital stock had increased to $40,000,000, with a net surplus of $7,623,961. Since 1852 profits to the stockholders have been invested or turned back into the business in the shape of stock dividends, which are part of the increase in capital stock. The average annual profits for the seven years, 1916 to 1922, were $3,544,102.

In an advertisement printed in the Boston Globe, issue of February 14, the corporation says:

"Since the resumption of operation on September 1, 1922, the company has produced goods at a rate which is the highest rate in its history. Its profits are now at the rate of more than $400,000 per month. Its surplus of 11 per cent per annum on its $40,000,000 stock."

To appreciate the profits of this corporation, it should be recalled that last December it increased its $20,000,000 stock dividend, thus doubling its capitalization to the present figure of $40,000,000.

LONG TRAINS RUN SLOWLY

Springfield, Ill., April 7.—The effort of railroad workers to limit freight trains to 50 cars is being nullified by action taken by railroad companies. Advocates of this measure show that costs are very high in operation caused by the excessive overtime required of crews to operate the freight trains. Railroad executives point out that when the Adamson eight-hour law was passed congress the railroads charged that the workers wanted the law so it would increase the number of employes and thus increase the pay roll. The railroads charge that from their position on the Adamson law, it is stated that the railroads in their efforts to obtain maximum train and tonnage loading have brought about a slower loading movement of trains which they have admitted is less than an average speed of 10 miles an hour per car per day. That is slower than the oxen travel of a century ago."

OUTLAW FIRE-PROOF COAL.

Boston, April 7.—State and municipal authorities are empowered to seize "fireproof" coal under the provisions of a bill signed by Governor Cox. A fine of $1,000 or imprisonment for one month, or both, may be provided for selling or possessing unfit fuel with intent to sell. Coal dealers giving short weight face similar penalties.

OPPOSE RATE CUTS.

Boston, April 7.—Eastern railroads want the federal court to permanently enjoin the interstate commerce commission from enforcing its decree that the cost of mileage books shall be reduced 20 per cent. The railroads say the order of a class legislature because it does not apply to all citizens.

SUPREME COURT CURB GAINS NEW RECRUIT

Washington, April 7.—United States Senator Fess of Ohio has stirred the conservative wing of the senate by declaring in favor of a constitutional amendment to act unconstitutional by a two-to-four vote. He urges that no law should be declared void except by one of the nine justices agree.

The senator's motion can be traced to a clause in the Ohio state constitution that decisions by that state supreme court be regulated in this way.

Senator Fess now quotes this as a justification of his view that a two-thirds vote of the United States supreme court should be necessary to set aside a legislative act.

The senator's motion has embarrassed those who insist that the supreme court is distinct from the legislative branch and can not be interfered with by lawmakers.

Those who have opposed the supreme court's power to declare laws unconstitutional, on the ground that the court usurps its functions, that the legislature can make rules for the court, and can even change the membership of the court to any number it desires. The Ohio senator's stand is an acknowledgment that something is wrong with the court.

Probe Into "Peonage" Demanded by Governor

Bismarck, N. Dak., April 7.—Governor Nestos has reiterated his demand for an investigation by Florida authorities of the death of Martin Tabert, this state, who is alleged to be a victim of the "peonage" system in a Florida lumber camp and was beaten to death. Tabert, a farm boy, was arrested for stealing a ride on a railroad train. He was sentenced to jail for 90 days and was then "leased" to the lumber company. A brutal foreman beat him to death with a heavy strap.

FAVOR HIGHER PENSIONS

Washington, April 7.—Senator Sterling, chairman of the senate pensions committee, favors an increase of pensions for civil service employes. He plans to urge the next session of congress that the maximum annuity paid under the retirement law be increased from $720—the present figure—to $900 or $1,000 a year. The minimum annuity would be increased from $180 to $240. The reasons for increases in pensions should be increased, said Senator Sterling. First, because the purchasing power of the dollar is less than former figures inadequate; second, because the cost of living has developed and increased to an extent far beyond the expectations of those who fostered the act. The law has been in operation since August, 1920, and the fund is now sometime like $17,000,000. It is expected that after the first year or two the fund would amount to only to $15,000,000 or perhaps $16,000,000.

Under the law all employes contribute 2½ per cent of their salaries to the fund. But the maximum annuity after 30 years' service after reaching the age of retirement is $720 no matter whether the employe has been receiving $1,800 or $2,500. Senator Sterling is considering having the annuities correspond somewhat with the size of the contributions by employes.

BOAST OF LAWLESSNESS

Little Rock, Ark., April 7.—Defiance of law by business men and other leading citizens marked the legislative investigation of the recent race riot in Phillips county, it is charged. The rioting along the Missouri & North Arkansas railroad, a witness before the probe body told that the strike interfered with their business and that they would not allow them from smashing the strike. This sentiment was behind the lynching of E. A. Gregory, and similar acts by the mob demonstration. State officials are silent in the face of this statement.

REJECT EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Albany, N. Y., April 7.—The state assembly has rejected the eight-hour day for women and minors in industry, though it was favored by Governor Smith. The senate passed such a like fate are resonation of direct primaries for state officials and non-partisan election boards for every county, and a minimum wage for women.

MEAT PACKERS' NEW CRY

Chicago, April 7.—The wage reduction plan of meat packers has failed to produce results, and these employers have concluded to become "scientific" before they again apply the screws. There will be no more wage cuts until the subject of labor costs is taken up "in a really scientific way," says the National Provisioner, mouthpiece for the packers.